

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

FASHIONABLE MECHANICS.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is just now giving to our over-crowded consuls over the water his ideas of how they may most readily attain fresh air and food for both their cramped bodies and minds. One of the largest and most pitiable classes in England, he suggests, is the decayed gentry, the "genteel poverty which starves and shrinks from the public eye. The pinch of hunger," he alleges, "under faded silks and satins is sharpest." We are then treated to a pathetic picture limned in darkest colors of these pauvre diables—the sons of penniless barons and honorables "driven to the city to become clerks, or the daughters of clergymen sinking into seamstresses or dress-makers."

We have a class in America which, in all respects, corresponds to that of the English. It is yet unpaired among us by either poet or novelist. We have no decayed gentry to occupy that dreadful, debatable land in society, where one walks on red-hot ploughshares, forever aping and miming dignities which are not rightfully ours. We have too few "good old families" and are too prosperous a people to furnish a class who have sunk to this level, but we do provide countless aspirants who have scrambled up to it—men and women far more deserving of pity than the gentleman or gentlewoman of their shabby clothes, who are yet conscious of that strength or memory within which passeth both show and the want of it.

The shabby-genteel is a melancholy spectacle enough, but the vulgar-genteel is a sight over which gods and men ought to weep instead of laugh. Who does not know the species in all its miserable pretentious variety—from the newcomer into Fifth avenue, with her tawdry ornaments and brocade, to the boss-carpet-maker's wife with her painted Brussels and sleepy silk bonnets? Just now, at this holiday noon of the year, this great factitious sham element of American society thrusts itself into notice most glaringly. It is the matter of dress perhaps that is the most evident symptom of the disease which has infected our society. We have not so much fault to find with extravagance or luxury in outward garb of houses or persons when they are confined to those who can afford them, or who understand their uses. A beautiful woman chastely and artistically dressed, or a house which is a home, furnished meaningfully, serve the same aesthetic purpose as a fine picture; and as to the latter, the element of the matter, it is better that Madame La Parvenue should scatter her newly gained wealth from her unable fingers among honest dressmakers and upholsterers than that her son should fling it away at the race course or faro table. But what shall we say to Stubbs, the worn-out, gray-haired book-keeper, half of whose two thousand a year go to provide his wife and daughters with cheap false paniers, cheap false chignons, and a cheap load fortnight at Saratoga—all modelled strictly after the fashion of Madame? Or to Smith, the penman, whose wife, with chignon, panier, etc., stands in the drawing-room. Nor is it the week in defiant imitation of the Stubbs? Or of Dora the chambermaid, and Polly the cook, who go with their "young gentlemen," glass jewelry hanging from their ears, hemstitched about their heads, and the calves of their legs stuffed with sawdust, to jostle and parade with the best at Cape May? Madame La Parvenue has cast into the treasury of folly out of her abundance, but these poor wretches have given all they had.

It needs but an hour's walk on the beach or in the ball-room at any of our fashionable places of resort to know how culture, home comfort, education, in children of higher or more honorable lives, are being sacrificed by a large class of our mechanics and workmen to the idol of sham fashion—a poor and ludicrous imitation of the falsest of realities. The money which might give to the shopkeeper or smith a sound domestic comfort, and fit his children to rise surely and steadily, is spent in making him and them objects of ridicule and pity to the very people whom he servilely imitates. His daughter in mock satin and cotton lace draggles through the sands at Long Branch a dress whose design and shape originally lent grace to a duchess in her own drawing-room. Nor is it the present outlay which is the sole evil; the mildew of decay rests not only the purse but the moral sense. Calico or silk? becomes at last the question of life to the girl, as a hired hack or a thorough-bred does to her brother. The whole frame of society from head to foot is feverish, tainted with impure and worthless desires.

Nor is it worth while to allege that the fault lies in the wealthier classes, and that the remedy must come from their reformation. Effective reforms in any people have always begun in the lower strata, grow out of their needs, worked upward to loosen the fetters of the masses. There is, perhaps, among the mechanics and tradesmen of this country a larger amount of sound practical sense, if less refinement or culture, than in the classes they imitate. It is high time that this common sense was put to work in their own home affairs as well as in the matters of politics and trades unions. Let any one of them look calmly at his own and his wife's way of life, and determine whether a servile outside aping of others, and ignobly debased ambition as to the ends of life, about the family strength, will not surely corrupt in future the strength and happiness of the country.

WHY THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON MIGHT STILL DO WITH ADVANTAGE. From the N. Y. Times. The first great defeat of the French has involved the prestige of a Ministry. A reputation of the Emperor may cost a dynasty. When Napoleon entered upon the present war, no man alive knew better than he that the penalty of failure would be the overthrow of the empire. His bitterest enemies in England plainly perceive, in his opening addresses to the nation and his army, evidence of his extreme dejection. A task was forced upon him by public opinion, which he seems to have felt it would be alike fatal for him to accept or refuse. The French people have long been eager to provoke a trial of strength with Prussia. The "Rhine frontier" is the most cherished of all their dreams. Since 1806 they have been more and more afraid of Prussia. The Spanish intrigue was discovered, and the excitement of the French could no longer be controlled. "The people have slipped out of my hands," was Napoleon's remark to an English correspondent who saw him. M. Thiers, an unprejudiced witness, says, in a letter published in the English papers, he had "always been of opinion that the time would come when the ambition of Prussia would have to be resisted by France." But

he admits that his countrymen could not be restrained. He does not say the Emperor could not be held back—but his countryman. Impartial history will probably record that the French people forced the war on Napoleon, if not to his own destruction, at least to his imminent peril.

We may well afford, while sympathizing with the Germans in this contest, to observe with careful eyes the events which are now taking place in the world—events which have never been exceeded in importance since the French Revolution, and which are destined, as we have always believed, to change the whole current of modern European history. To suffer ourselves to be misled by the ignorant cries of wild fanatics would be unworthy of us as men who are living in times destined to stand out in history with terrible significance. We may be against France in this struggle, but it is not necessary to insult France by asserting, as one of our contemporaries has done, that all the French troops are drunk when they march to the war, and that the people are bitterly opposed to it. Let us, at least, as public historians, tell the truth frankly, no matter what our sympathies may be. If we believe that Germany is in the right, that in no reason why we should garble the news which its way into our columns. As for Napoleon, what does his life signify in this gigantic struggle, one way or the other? He is but an accident of the hour. Strike him out of the scene altogether, and this war would be waged with tenfold intensity on the part of France—for then the great present cause of political differences would be removed, and every man in France would rise to beat back the tide of invasion. But while the Emperor remains, there are two things which should be unity. If Napoleon were to abdicate at this moment, and leave the war to be conducted by other hands, he would assist France infinitely more than he can do by pretending to lead her armies. His health is bad. His spirits are broken. By abdicating he would stand in a better position before the world than he can hope to do now, even although an accident might give him a great victory. For he is charged with being the sole cause of the war, and the London Times, for instance, asserts that if he were out of the way the war would cease. The predictions and statements of the London Times throughout our own war were so remarkably accurate, and so manifestly dictated by a love of truth and fair play, that we cannot fail to attach the greatest importance to its suggestions now. Its opinion is scarcely less decisive than the "opinion of Antwerp," concerning which, by-the-by, the cable has not kept us properly informed since Monday.

In any case, Napoleon, by withdrawing from the scene, would put the question to the test whether or not the war hinges solely upon him. This is, perhaps, the most favorable termination to this rivalry which he can reasonably look for. If he did not make this crisis, it is all the more reason why he should not attempt to control it. He is a cause of weakness instead of strength to the country. France may be beaten under an Emperor, but it has always been found impossible to reduce her under a Republic. Politically, indeed, republics do not flourish on French soil. They end in bloodshed and anarchy. But they at least have always known how to defend the country. The people know what they are fighting for when a Republic bids them to advance against an invader. In 1792 Frenchmen could turn aside from their own Revolution to sweep back the Austrian invaders. Prussia would find her antagonist fifty-fold more formidable if a Republic were declared to-morrow. She might still conquer, but her task would be more difficult. As for the restoration of the Orleans family, it is a hopeless chimera. There will be no King in France until a Republic has had yet another trial.

THE FARCE OF A REGENCY.

From the N. Y. Herald.

The olden times when sovereigns went to the wars in obedience to necessity sometimes to establish a regency for the government of the realm in their protracted absence. Many of these puissant warriors passed years away from their country, and it took them often many months to go and come from the seat of war. Richard the Lion Heart was four years absent from England, battering away at the walls of Acre, Joppa and Ascalon; Philip of France was nearly two years on the same crusade, in which they were in a measure isolated from the seat and offices of government. But how different it is now, when kings and emperors can reach the seat of war in a few hours by railroad, and direct the councils of the nation by telegraph! In these days of telegraphs and railroads the idea of a regency is a farce. And what greater could there be in this enlightened age than the present regency of France? With all respect for the estimable lady who occupies the Regent's chair, we must regard her position as one of those stage effects in which Napoleon so much delights. This establishment of the Empress as Regent with so much show and formality is just like the Emperor's last sensation—taking a little boy to the battle-field to pick up bullets. What was the necessity of a regency for France when the Emperor was only going a few hundred miles from Paris, and is actually not out of France at all? Napoleon has been making a good many blunders of late—some very silly, like those referred to, and some very grave indeed, like the idea that it only required a great mass of men thrown to the frontier in order to conquer Prussia. He has discovered since that brains as well as soldiers are required for that task. And he has discovered another thing, too—that there is a fair share of brains on the other side of the Rhine. "Our Fritz" and our "Carl" are not spavanted lumps. They are good soldiers, well skilled in all the requirements of the work they have in hand, both in council and on the field. If Napoleon can see his way before him he will quit these showman's tricks, in which women and babies play the second parts, and abdicate in favor of the French people and republican liberty. There is nothing else left for him, unless he can retrieve the defeat to his arms at once.

THE REPUBLICAN ADDRESS.

From the N. Y. Sun.

The Republican Congressional Committee have issued an address to the Republican party. In giving a sketch of the rise and progress of the party, it divides its existence into four epochs, namely, the six years previous to the election of Lincoln, the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, the reconstruction era, and General Grant's administration. Though a partisan appeal rather than an impartial history, its recital is in the main correct until it reaches the fourth epoch, the present administration.

In entering upon the defense of the administration, the committee are forced to admit that the expectations of many Republicans have not been realized in the action either of the President or of Congress. In other words, the committee acknowledge

that there is a good deal of dissatisfaction in the Republican party with the failure of General Grant to redeem the pledges made when he entered upon office. It needed no such address to assure the country of this, but coming from such a high quarter, and in the form of an appeal to the people on the eve of elections which are to determine the political character of the next Congress, and perhaps settle the next Presidency, the admission is very significant.

This fatal admission is not compensated by the committee's elaborate laudation of the financial policy of the administration, which is put forth as its chief merit. The committee grossly exaggerate the complacency with which the people accept this policy. By keeping up, during the past eighteen months, the war rates of taxation, including the odious and unconstitutional income tax, the administration has been able to call in some of the outstanding obligations of the Government. But before a sorely burdened community sings praises to a policy that robs Peter to pay Paul, it prefers to wait and see whether, under the boasted prospective reduction of taxes, the Treasury will be full enough to enable the Secretary to continue to buy five-twentys on the Stock Exchange.

The address sounds the praises of the Indian policy of General Grant; but before the people join in the chorus they desire to hear the echo from beyond the Mississippi, and to learn whether Red Cloud, Spotted Tail, and their brother braves chime in. It will be time enough to smoke the calumet when the war whoop, now in full blast on the plains, has died away.

The committee pronounce their unqualified eulogium upon the course of the administration towards the States lately in rebellion; but they fail to give us their opinion upon the prescriptions, corruptions, and downright thieving of the carpet-bag governments in those States. Nor do they inform us whether they disapprove of the scarcely concealed purpose of General Grant to aid those elements in retaining power by fraudulent elections in this fall, and to uphold them by the bayonet on the condition that they will support his administration.

The address, though long and elaborate, omits all reference to the most prominent feature and most conspicuous failure of the administration—its foreign policy. It does not utter a solitary word upon this important subject. It puts forth no extenuation for the inexcusable neglect to try and do something to secure a settlement of the Alabama claims. It has no scathing rebuke of the greasy St. Domingo job. It is silent about Cuba.

After all, this omission to refer to the foreign policy of the administration is natural. For, in defense, or extenuation, or even explanation of a policy so imbecile, so corrupt, so disgraceful and humiliating, what could the committee say? The name of Henry Wilson is signed to the address as chairman. The address is unqualifiedly in French, and knowing how feeble he is, could the robust Massachusetts Senator laud his weak, wavering administration of the State Department? Mr. Wilson takes pride in obeying the behests and reflecting the opinions of the Commonwealth which sent him to Washington. He does not forget that a committee of its Legislature has recently, in accordance with sworn testimony, shown J. Bancroft Davis, the Assistant Secretary of State, to be guilty of bribery, corruption, and gross breach of trust, while acting as director, trustee, and counsel of a leading railway corporation. With this record staring him in the face, could Henry Wilson return to Massachusetts after putting his name to a document that lauded a department of the Government whose chief officer tolerated the presence of such a colleague? Of course he could not, and therefore the committee keep silence about the foreign policy of the administration.

Upon the whole, we think this address will damage rather than advance the interests of the Republican party.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE HAMILTON BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

TREGO'S TEABERRY TOOTHWASH. It is the most pleasant, cheapest and best dentifrice extant. It is warranted free from injurious ingredients. Preserves and Whitens the Teeth. Invigorates and Soothes the Gums! Purifies and Perfumes the Breath! Prevents and Cures Toothache, Bleeding Gums, and Purifies Artificial Teeth! Is a Superior Article for Children! Sold by all druggists and dentists.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE UNITED STATES BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one million dollars, with the right to increase the same to five million dollars.

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS SPLENDID HAIR DYE is the best in the world, the only true and perfect dye. It is a delicate, pleasant, no disappointment—no ridiculous tints—no "Does not contain Lead nor any Vitale Poison to injure the Hair or System." Invigorates the Hair and leaves it soft and beautiful. Black Hair. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers. Applied at the Factory, No. 16 BOND STREET, New York. (457 mwf)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE CHESSNUT HILL SAVINGS AND LOAN BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. Manufacture and sell the Improved, Portable Fire Extinguisher. Always Reliable. D. T. GAGE, 500 if No. 118 MARKET ST., General Agent.

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HEADQUARTERS FOR EXTRACTING Teeth with fresh Nitrous-Oxide Gas. Absolutely no pain. Dr. F. R. THOMAS, formerly operating at Golden Domes, has removed his office to the painless extraction. Office, No. 511 WALNUT STREET.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE JEFFERSON BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

SUMMER RESORTS. CAPE MAY. CONGRESS HALL, CAPE MAY, N. J. Opens June 1. Closes October 1. Mark and Simon Hassler's Orchestra, and full Military Band, of 120 pieces. TERMS—\$5 per day June and September. \$4.00 per day July and August. The new wing is now completed. Applications for Rooms, address 415 1/2 St. J. F. OAKR, Proprietor.

THE PHILADELPHIA HOUSE, 150 N. 2ND ST., IS NOW OPEN. The house has been greatly enlarged and improved, and offers superior inducements to those seeking a quiet and pleasant home by the sea-side at a moderate price. Address, E. GRIFITHS, No. 104 CHESTNUT STREET, or Cape May.

TREMONT HOUSE, CAPE MAY, N. J.—This House is now open for the reception of guests. Rooms can be engaged at No. 100 MOUNT VERNON STREET, until July 1. MRS. E. PARKINSON JONES, Proprietor.

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INSTRUCTION. EDGEMILL, MERCHANTVILLE, N. J., WILL BE OPENED FOR SUMMER BOARDERS from July 1 to September 15, 1870. The House is new and pleasantly located, with plenty of shade. Rooms large and airy, a number of them communicating, and with first-class board. A few families can be accommodated by applying early. For particulars call on or address REV. T. W. CATTELL, Merchantville, N. J.

CHEGARAY INSTITUTE, Nos. 1527 AND 1529 SPRUCE STREET, Philadelphia, will reopen on THURSDAY, September 10. French is the language of the institute, and is constantly spoken in the institute. L. D'HERVILLE, Principal.

H. Y. LAUDERBACH'S ACADEMY, ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS, No. 108 S. TENTH STREET. Applicants for the Fall Term will be received on and after August 16. Circulars at Mr. Warburton's, No. 480 Chestnut Street. 530 if

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HAIR CURLERS. THE HYPERION HAIR CURLERS, AN INDISPENSABLE ARTICLE FOR THE LADIES (Patented July 9, 1867). This Curler is the most perfect invention ever offered to the public. It is easily operated, neat in appearance and will not injure the hair, as there is no heat required, nor any metallic substance used to rust or break the hair. Manufactured only, and for sale wholesale and retail, by McMILLAN & CO., 526 if No. 53 North FRONT Street, Philadelphia. Sold at all Dry Goods, Trimming and Notion Stores.

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PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTHERN LAR SEMI-MONTHLY LINE TO NEW ORLEANS. THE YAZOO will sail for New Orleans direct, on Wednesday, August 18, at 8 A. M. The YAZOO will sail from New Orleans, via Havana on Tuesday, August 23, at 8 A. M.

WEEKLY LINE TO SAVANNAH, GA. THE TONAWANDA will sail for Savannah on Saturday, August 14, at 8 A. M. The WYOMING will sail from Savannah on Saturday, August 14, at 8 A. M.

SEMI-MONTHLY LINE TO WILMINGTON, N. C. THE PIONEER will sail for Wilmington on Wednesday, August 11, at 6 A. M. Returning, will leave Wilmington Wednesday, August 18, at 6 A. M. Connects with the Cape Fear River Steamboat Company, the Wilmington and Weldon and North Carolina Railroads, and the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, to all interior ports. Freight for Columbia, S. C., and Augusta, Ga., taken via Wilmington, at as low rates as by any other route. Insurance effected when requested by shippers. Bills of lading signed on or before day of sailing. WILLIAM L. JAMES, General Agent, 615 No. 120 South THIRD Street.

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FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN.—Imman Line of Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:—City of Antwerp (via Halifax), Tuesday, July 26, at 1 P. M. City of Brooklyn, Saturday, August 13, at 7 A. M. City of Brunel, Saturday, August 20, at 12 M. City of Barmouth (via Halifax), Thursday, August 25, at 1 P. M. City of Washington, Saturday, August 27, at 2 P. M. and each succeeding Saturday at alternate Tuesday, from pier No. 45 North river. RATES OF PASSAGE. Payable in gold or in currency. First Cabin.....\$15 Steerage.....\$30 To London.....\$0 To London.....\$5 To Paris.....\$0 To Paris.....\$5 To Halifax.....\$0 To Halifax.....\$5 Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Hamburg, Bremen, etc., at reduced rates. Tickets can be bought here at moderate rates by persons wishing to send for their friends. For further information apply at the company's office. JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, N. Y.; Or to O'DONNELL & PAUL, Agents, No. 402 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia. 45

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